

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1-9, 11, 16, 19, 20, 31-36, and 38 are pending in the application. The Applicants have amended claims 1, 5-9, 16, 20, 31, 33-35, and 38. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 7-9, 16, 31, 35, 36, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Neill '653 (US 2004/0023653). The Applicants have amended the claims to better distinguish the claimed invention from O'Neill '653. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

The Examiner cites paragraphs 0030, 0031, and 0045 of O'Neill '653 for rendering claims 1-3, 7-9, 16, 31, 35, 36, and 38 obvious. However, O'Neill '653 does not disclose or suggest a mobility anchoring agent that filters the downlink packets or a mobile router that filters the uplink packets. As Applicants' specification states, this prevents the waste of radio assets by ensuring that unauthorized packets are filtered out prior to transmission over the air interface. (Page 6, lines 10-16).

The Examiner focuses instead on the rather broad generic phrase in the original claims, "exercising access control...". The Applicants have amended the independent claims to better distinguish the invention by amending the steps to positively recite the filtering steps rather than "exercising access control." Thus, the method of access control recited in amended claim 1 comprises the steps:

filtering at the mobility anchoring agent, downlink packets to said
mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the
packets are transmitted over an air interface; and

filtering at said mobile router, uplink packets to said mobility anchoring agent to eliminate unauthorized uplink packets before the packets are transmitted over the air interface.

These filtering steps are not disclosed or suggested by O'Neill '653. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, and 7-9 depend from amended claim 1 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel and unobvious elements of claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of claims 2, 3, and 7-9 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 16 is an apparatus-type claim corresponding to method claim 1. Claim 16 has been amended similarly to claim 1. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 16 is respectfully requested for the reasons discussed above.

Independent claim 31 recites a mobility anchoring agent. Claim 31 has been amended similarly to claims 1 and 16 to recite that the mobility anchoring agent includes means for monitoring and filtering downlink packets to said mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the downlink packets are transmitted over the bi-directional link. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 31 is respectfully requested for the reasons discussed above.

Claims 35 and 36 depend from amended claim 31 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel and unobvious elements of claim 31. Therefore, the allowance of claims 35 and 36 is respectfully requested.

Independent claim 38 recites an access control enforcement module for operation with a mobility anchoring agent that anchors network mobility for a mobile router managing a movable network. The mobile router is interconnected through a bi-directional link with said mobility anchoring agent. Claim 38 has been amended similarly to claims 1, 16, and 31 to recite that the access control enforcement module includes means for monitoring and filtering downlink packets to the mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the downlink packets are transmitted over the bi-directional link. Therefore, the allowance of amended claim 38 is respectfully requested for the reasons discussed above.

On Page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected dependent claims 4, 5, 19, 20, 32, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Neill '653 in view of Lee et al. (US 2005/0058100). Claims 4 and 5 depend from amended claim 1; claims 19 and 20 depend from amended claim 16; and claims 32 and 33 depend from amended claim 31. The Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the independent claims discussed above also distinguish the claimed invention over O'Neill '653 and Lee. Like O'Neill '653, Lee also fails to disclose or suggest filtering downlink packets to the mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the downlink packets are transmitted over an air interface or other bi-directional link. Thus, the combination of O'Neill '653 and Lee would not render the claimed invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, the allowance of claims 4, 5, 19, 20, 32, and 33 is respectfully requested.

On Page 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Neill '653 in view of O'Neill (US 2004/0100951). Claim 6 depends from amended claim 1; and claim 34 depends from amended claim 31. The Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to the independent claims discussed above also distinguish the claimed invention over O'Neill '653 and O'Neill '951. Like O'Neill '653, O'Neill '951 also fails to disclose or suggest filtering downlink packets to the mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the downlink packets are transmitted over an air interface or other bi-directional link. Thus, the combination of O'Neill '653 and O'Neill '951 would not render the claimed invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, the allowance of claims 6 and 34 is respectfully requested.

On Page 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over O'Neill '653 as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Wenzel (US 2002/0034939). Claim 7 depends from amended claim 1. The Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 1 discussed above also distinguish the claimed invention over O'Neill '653 and Wenzel. Like O'Neill '653,

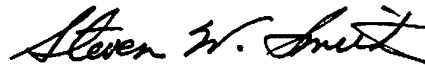
Wenzel also fails to disclose or suggest filtering downlink packets to the mobile router to eliminate unauthorized downlink packets before the downlink packets are transmitted over an air interface or other bi-directional link. Thus, the combination of O'Neill '653 and Wenzel would not render the claimed invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, the allowance of claim 7 is respectfully requested.

3.) Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-9, 11, 16, 19, 20, 31-36, and 38.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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